



Cutting Edge

John Harvey

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There's a Slasher Loose in the corridors of a large urban hospital. His knowledge of anatomy is matched by his skill with a surgical blade, and his attacks are fast, furtive, and fatal. Among a welter of suspects, it's Resnick's job to keep him from killing again. If John Harvey's novels were songs, Charlie Parker would play them. Cutting Edge sings the blues for people too bruised to carry the tune for themselves. -- The New York Times Book Review

Cutting Edge Details

Date : Published July 1st 1992 by Avon Books (first published 1991)

ISBN : 9780380716159

Author : John Harvey

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Genre : Mystery, Crime, Fiction

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From Reader Review Cutting Edge for online ebook

Bettie? says

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b043x37n>

Wiki description: *Detective Inspector Charlie Resnick is the protagonist of a series of eleven police procedural novels by British writer John Harvey, based in the city of Nottingham. Charlie was noted for his Polish descent and love of both sandwiches and jazz. The first novel in the series, Lonely Hearts was published in 1989, and was named by The Times as one of the "100 Greatest Crime Novels of the Century". What was believed to be the final novel in the series, Last Rites, was published in 1998. However, in an interview on BBC Four on 7 November 2006 John Harvey mentioned that he was working on a new novel in the Resnick series. In an interview with the BBC on 20 October 2007, it was confirmed that the novel would be entitled Cold In Hand and would see Resnick retire from the police force. Cold In Hand was published in 2008. There were two TV movies made about Resnick, based on Lonely Hearts and Rough Treatment, for the BBC in 1992 and 1993, starring Academy Award nominee Tom Wilkinson as the character. Screenplays for both were written by John Harvey himself. Several of the novels have been adapted for radio, often appearing in the rotation on BBC Radio 4 Extra.*

John Harvey's Nottingham-based, jazz-loving DI Charlie Resnick.

Jo Jenner says

I don't really have an issue with the book but i just wasn't engaged. I like Resnick but we never really find out why he and his wife split. There is a scene where she comes back but it all seems rather stilted and after the whole novel of trying to get to see him and making a scene at the local polish club when she eventually gets him alone it is almost a none scene.

The internal politics of the hospital are not investigated in any detail and final clue that leads to us finding the killer is reveal due to the actions of a woman scorned.

The whole things come together and the scenes with Calvin and his Dad never really made me think they were involved. The chapter might have been called 'Red Herring' although I might be feeding you a red herring there.

Anyway it all comes together in the end and everything works out but unfortunately I didn't really care.

Biggus says

I don't get it? I should like it, I like the genre, I like the setting, I like the whole feel of the thing, but... I can't stand it. I can't stand the staccato writing style. It is like reading haiku or sentences, not a story. Pity :(

I realise this is totally subjective, so don't pay it too much heed. I read (listened actually) to 20% of it, then gave up. Not interested in struggling with books I don't like, especially when the struggle is a stylistic one.

I just finished a book by Homer Hickam. It was silk. This is pointy gravel.

Denise says

Once again a solid 3 stars. Are these John Harvey books blockbusters? No- just entertaining reading about people who happen to be involved in crimes. This story line is interesting and the actual perpetrator (of the central group of crimes) is found almost by accident. No I'm not going to retell the story but I will say that I really like the way John Harvey ends his books. Makes me want the next in the series immediately. Unfortunately they are older and have to hunt them down ...

Wanda says

16 NOV 2016 - a recommendation through Bettie. Thank you.

25 NOV 2016 - a good listen-to. Catch it here - <http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b043x37n>

Christine Cody says

Oh...my...God: this book was fantastic! In his inimitable style, John Harvey moves the narration from place to place, person to person, situation to situation. We never fully connect the dots, but instead look through windows as people proceed with their lives, some amid great loss, and others seeming to get away with their "sins." At times, we are the all-knowing reader, certain of what's going on. Then everything topples, the story takes a surprising turn. It feels like a denouement, but then...wait! Why are we still visiting this person? Why is one narration interrupting another? Suddenly, Harvey grabs us and terrifies us with the awareness of one truly narcissistic, violent human being amid all the others. Just as suddenly, Resnick understands the truth. He and his devoted team race to save another life and we, the readers, hold our breath, sit up in our chairs, and wait anxiously for the screaming to stop and for someone to answer the question, "are you all right?" I highly, highly recommend this book.

Jill Hutchinson says

I have read one other book in the Charlie Resnick series which prompted me to look for another. This is an early entry and it is pretty darned compelling. The author has an unusual style which takes some getting used to as it appears that characters keep popping up that don't have anything to do with the main narrative. One soon learns that maybe they do and Harvey weaves it all together beautifully.

Employees of a local hospital are being attacked with what appears to be a scalpel and one death has already occurred. Resnick and his squad are desperately trying to piece together the paucity of clues to catch the killer before (s)he strikes again. The author also does a good job painting a word picture of the personal lives of Resnick and the investigating officers/constables. A quick but enjoyable read for a rainy day.

Myrna says

3.7/5 stars. This book felt familiar to me. I either read it before and forgot most of the details, or I read another book that had similarities. The writing was solid, and I will read the next in the series.

Colin Mitchell says

Staff from a hospital are attacked and seriously injured before a death occurs. Cover-ups and closing of ranks hinder the investigation before Resnick make an arrest. A tale of revenge bungled surgical procedures and a young man's arrogance and another man's unhappiness. There is also Resnick's wife.

Sandy Hall says

I skipped #2 so this may be a "duh" but #3 was MUCH better than #1! lol The characters seem to have grown into themselves and the whole flow of the story was much smoother. I'm loving this series!

Jess George says

Top-notch British mystery. Really enjoyed DI Resnick and his squad. Definitely want to check out the rest of the series!

Lis says

Another gritty Charlie Resnick story in Nottingham -- well told, lots of suspense, some interesting characters.

Denise says

Once again a solid 3 stars. Are these John Harvey books blockbusters? No- just entertaining reading about people who happen to be involved in crimes. This story line is interesting and the actual perpetrator (of the central group of crimes) is found almost by accident. No I'm not going to retell the story but I will say that I really like the way John Harvey ends his books. Makes me want the next in the series immediately. Unfortunately they are older and have to hunt them down ...

DD@Phila

Glen says

Dreary mystery about scalpel killings of hospital staff.

Laura says

From BBC Radio 4 Extra:

When a young house doctor is attacked on a deserted hospital walkway, the clues seem to lead nowhere for DI Charlie Resnick.

Tom Georgeson stars as jazz-loving Detective Inspector Charlie Resnick in John Harvey's 3-part dramatisation of his own novel.

With Sean Baker as Millington, Kate Eaton as Lynn, Paul Bazeley as Dipak and Ben Porter as Kevin.

Producer: David Hunter

First broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in 1995.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b043x37n>
